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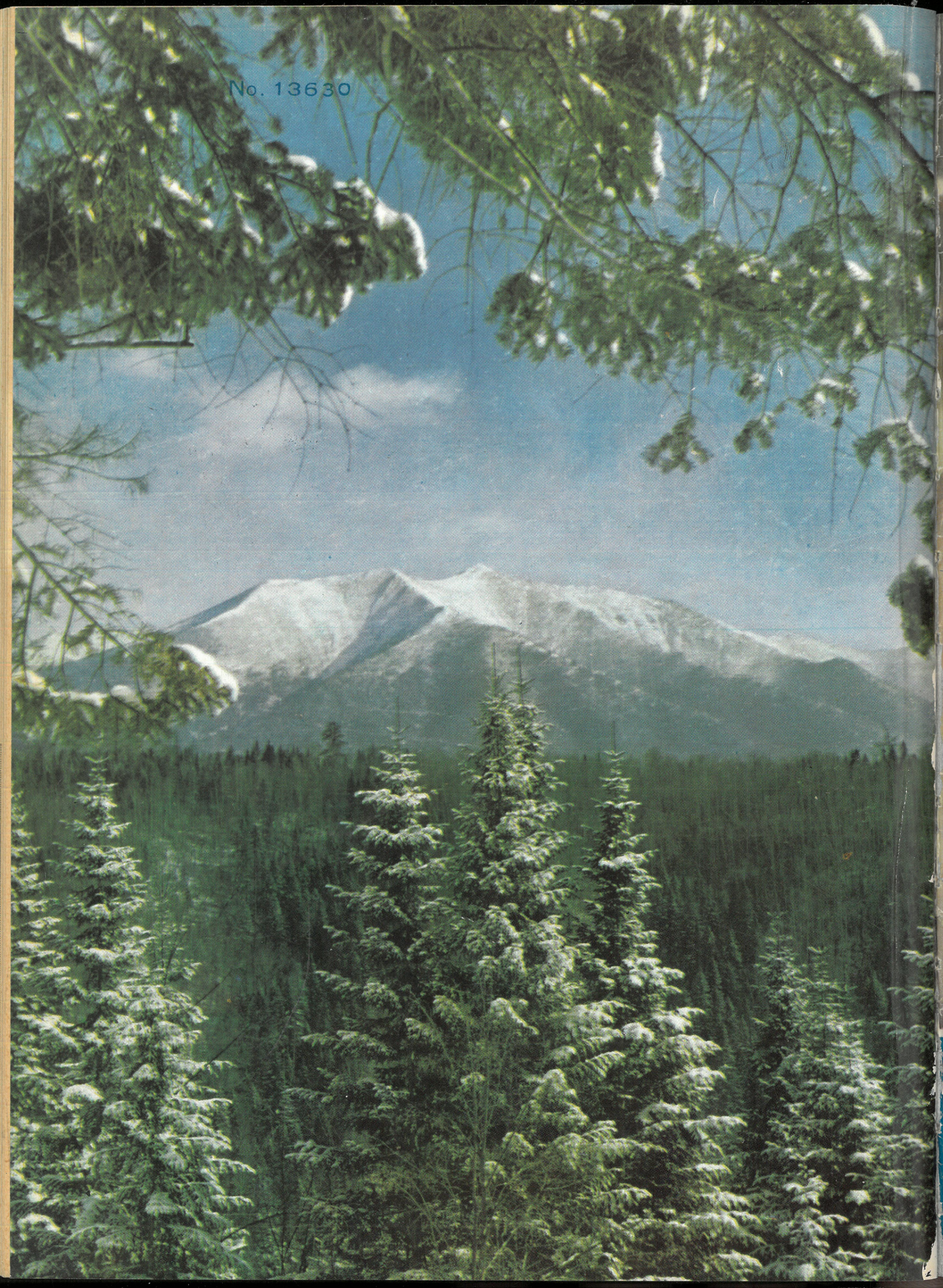

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The Korean TRADE UNIONS

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BRILLIANT VICTORY OF THE PARTY'S EDUCATIONAL POLICY

The 6th Session of the 3rd Supreme People's Assembly discussed the Universal 9-Year Compulsory Technical Education, a report made by Comrade Kim Il, First Vice-Premier of the Cabinet and adopted a law in this connection.(Refer to the article on p. 1.)

The pupils of the Samheung Middle School, Pyongyang

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Front Cover: Photo shows a man making eagerly an experiment. He is Jo Rye Haeng, chairman of a primary trade union organization at the paper manufacturing laboratory of the Sinuiju Chemical Fibre Plant, who will soon graduate from a factory college

Back Cover: Ski training on Baekdu Plateau

2

1967

Published by the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, Pyongyang, Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Education Makes Great Strides

The Sixth Session of the Third Supreme People's Assembly was held in November last year. At the session First Vice-Premier Kim Il made the report on enforcing the universal compulsory nine-year technical education from April 1, 1967.

He declared that all the conditions have matured for this. When the nine-year compulsory education is enforced, all the boys and girls of school ages ranging from seven to sixteen will be given free, compulsory education at regular schools.

The Fourth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea convened in 1961 decided to go over from the present seven year compulsory secondary education to the nine year compulsory technical education within the Seven-Year Plan period.

The Conference of the Workers' Party of Korea held in October decided to enforce the universal compulsory nine-year technical education from 1967, even under the present circumstances in which we have to thoroughly implement the line of carrying on the construction of socialist economy in parallel with defence upbuilding and further strengthen the defence potential of the country.

This, the reporter declared, is one more bold and well-advised measure our Party has taken proceeding from the burning desire to build a prosperous and civilized country faster and from the grandiose programme for energetically cultivating the strength and ability of the people for a greater victory of the revolution.

He declared: The enforcement to the universal compulsory nine-year technical education will provide the social preconditions for the state to give all children regular school education with responsibility till they reach the working age, and rear them into men who are developed in an allround way.

According to the report, the existing school system will undergo partial change in connection with the enforcement of the

JLM 73-544

nine-year compulsory education so as to further perfect the popular education system.

The present education system consists of four-year primary school, three-year middle school, two-year technical school, two-year higher technical school and then collge and university courses.

In the future the two-year technical school course will be added to the three-year middle school course so as to make it a five-year compulsory middle school course and give the basic content of secondary education.

Thus, from 1967 the nine-year compulsory technical schooling will be enforced through the four-year primary school and the newly organized five-year middle school.

The nine-year compulsory education will prepare the new generation as men of a new type developed in an all round way through general and technical education and the combination of education with production labor.

The higher technical school course will be extended from the present two years to three-four years. Besides two-year high schools will be set up as a follow-up of the five-year middle school in order to prepare the new generation more effectively for higher education and social practice.

Skilled workers' school will be organized based on the skilled workers' training courses which are run by major factories, ore and coal mines, construction sites and other large-scale enterprises. They will take in those who have proceeded to production sites after finishing the nine-year compulsory technical education and train them into skilled workers for major lines.

The enforcement of the nine-year compulsory technical schooling, First Vice-Premier Kim Il said, is a vivid expression of the profound solicitude of the Korean Workers' Party and the Government of the Republic for the education of younger generation and, at the same time, demonstrates the superiority of the socialist system established in our country and the strength of the independent national economy.

When the nine-year compulsory technical education is introduced, the rising generation, and furthermore, workers, peasants and all other members of the society, will receive education above secondary schooling and this will markedly enhance the general cultural standard of the society and bring new progress in cultural revolution.

First Vice-Premier Kim Il declared that the enforcement of the universal nine-year compulsory technical education will give great inspiration to the South Korean teachers and students and people at large who are struggling for existence and the right of learning under the colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists.

He reviewed the course traversed by people's education in our country.

Our country, he said, ranks among the highest in the world in the proportion of the students in the population and the appropriations for education in the state budget.

According to his report, over 2,600,000 children and students are now studying in more than 9,160 schools of common education and 98 higher educational institutions. Solid ranks of national cadres serving our revolution and construction have come into being, upwards of 430,000 technicians and specialists working in different branches of the national economy.

All this, stated the First Vice-Premier, is the brilliant fruition of the education policy of our Party which has established Juche in education, closely combined education with the revolutionary struggle, with production labour, and steadily deepened and developed the communist education based on class education for the younger generation.

He called for consolidating the schools, the bases of cultural revolution, and further enhancing the quality of school education.

Relying On the Creativeness of Masses

The Bongung Chemical Combine stands in Hamheung, one of the industrial cities in our country.

This factory is greatly conducive to the development of our chemical industry.

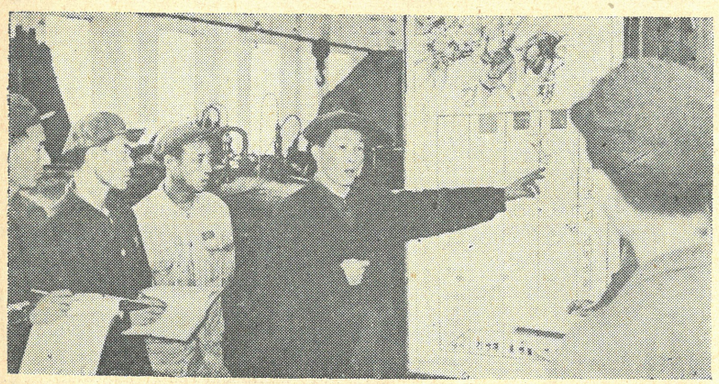
Every year it witnesses a rapid growth of production. The production in 1965 has risen about 2 times as against 1960. Of late, it again achieved an unheard-of success in production.

The workers, however, do not rest on their laurels, rather, their endeavours for the increased production are becoming heightened with the passing days.

Notably, from the beginning of October last year, this factory is surging to a new high. That is why they are greatly encouraged by the report delivered by Comrade Kim Il Sung at the recent Conference of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The workers of this factory are making deep study of Comrade Kim Il Sung's report the "Present Situation and the Tasks of Our Party" so that they could arm themselves with its main ideas and act along the path illuminated by it. So the militant spirit in which they had worked, lived, and fought for the victory against the U.S. aggressors during the period of the Patriotic War of Liberation of the Fatherland is brimming over among them.

The factory trade union committee and the organizations affiliated with it are working to suit this situation.



Pak Tae Jin, vice-chairman of the trade union committee, often goes down to the Korea-Vietnam Friendship Work-team at the Ammonium Shop to consult with its members on matters relating to production

Their first and foremost attention was paid to helping the workers make deep study of the documents of the Conference of the Party.

A measure was taken by the committee to hold meetings to discuss documents at every primary trade union organization. More than 1,000 trade union workers and the committee members of the primary trade union organizations, 88 Chollima and Twice Chollima workteam leaders and several hundreds of lecturers of the trade union educational network were dispatched to all workteams and study meetings to acquaint the workers with the prospects and immediate tasks confronting the factory. In addition, the factory newspaper, bill-boards and radio rediffusion served for the workers so that they could

study the documents of the Party Conference in close combination with their practical work.

Such efforts were not without success. Workers have come to grasp in a short span of time the main ideas and basic contents of the documents of the Conference. As a result, workers became more zealous to tap the reserves for increasing production.

The workers at the Ammonium Chloride Shop, exploited the production reserves, recalling how in the past they had successfully ensured the war-time production even after so many workers left the factory for the front. Subsequently, they managed to refine salt water 3 times more than before, improving further its quality. And the daily production of ammonium chloride fertilizer increased by 1,000 tons or more.

The members of the Korea-Vietnam Friendship Workteam at the Ammonia Shop sought out reserves for increasing the production, bearing in mind that "the gaining even one more ton of compressed air is equivalent to one more ton of bomb to be dropped over the U.S. imperialists. In this spirit they succeeded to produce 3 more tons of compressed air per compressor.

The workers' creativeness did not stop at that. Now the factory trade union committee and the shop trade union organizations came out to concentrate their energies to materializing those reserves being sought out by workers.

The factory trade union committee and the shop trade union organizations, in their respective capacity, grasped the possibility of increasing the production and came out in its solution.

Toward the end of last year the factory trade union committee dispatched Shim Ryong Taek and some other committee members to the transport shop, and Pak In Baek and several other committee members to the packing shop.

This was because of any increase in the production of fertilizer depends on how much raw materials could be brought by transport and on how much more packing cases could be turned out.

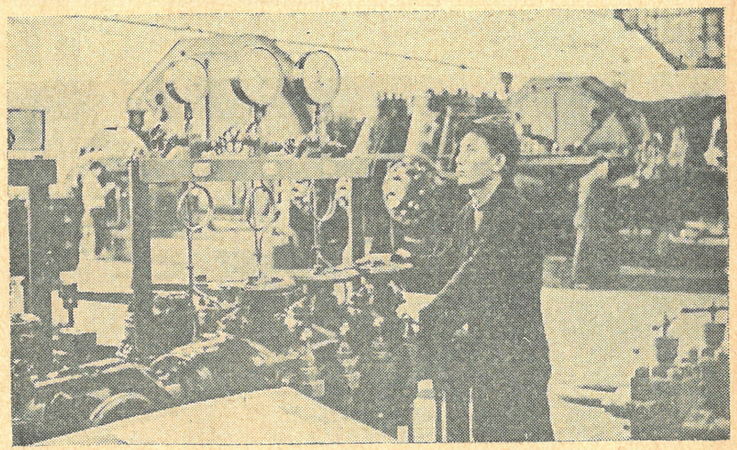
Those committee members made workers there have a full understanding of the importance of their role in the increasing of the production. The workers caught the idea and decided on the spot to tackle the problem.

Committee members, too, joined them in this job. The equipment in the transport shop was improved,. which subsequently enabled to double its unloading and transport capacity. On the other hand, the packing shop could turn out 400 odd cases every day.

Such successes were not confined to these trade union organizations alone.

The trade union organization of the Electrolysis Shop assisted the electrolysis workteam members in inventing a new electrolysis frame which helped raise prodution of hydrogen 1.25 times, saving several million kwh of electricity in a year.

Thus the trade union organizations of Bongung Chemical Combine are actively organizing their work among the workers in tune with the surging enthusiasm of the workers encouraged by the Conference of the Workers' Party of Korea.



The Korea-Vietnam Friendship Work-team led by Kim Sung Sam is always out-doing its rivals in socialist emulation

Heungnam Fertilizer Combine

The Heungnam Fertilizer Combine is one of the largest chemical factories in our country. Today its history runs back over 40 years. For nealy 20 years the factory was under the colonial rule of Japanese imperialism.

The workers — wage-slaves — of the factory went through a wretched life under capital's ruthless exploitation supported by the Japanese fascist rule. Nevertheless, they never cowed to the enemy of their class. Until the day of Liberation they fought relentlessly for their existence and freedom with a yearning for a new happy society.

The liberation of Korea on August 15, 1945 was a milestone marking the turning-point of their life. Their long-cherished aspiration began to realize from this day.

However, they had to face mountains of difficulties during the early period after the liberation. Most of the installations of the plant had been wrecked by the Japanese before their flight to their homeland. None of the workers ever had experience in the management of the factory. These were the main problems that troubled the workers. Yet, fully aware of being the masters of the country, the masters of the factory, they stood up as one and tackled the problems one after another, braving through all the obstacles on their path. Thus in a relatively short space of time they managed to rehabilitate the factory and became able to resume the production. The first patriotic emulation for increasing production was initiated by the workers of this factory.

The Korean war unleashed on June 25, 1950 by the U.S. imperialists in collusion with their stooges interrupted the peaceful work of the workers. Thousands of them volunteered to the front and shed blood to defend their motherland. The remaining workers organized themselves into shock-brigades supporting the front and thus ensured the war-time production.

The three-year war turned the factory into ruins. But their dauntless spirit was unquenchable. In about three-four year time they healed up the war-wounds and resumed the production. The plant had to get through such great difficulties, yet it rose up again and advanced steadily towards its goal. In 1966 the factory's industrial output increased over two times compared with 1958.

The creativeness of the workers flourishd with the time. In 1965 alone 1,840 items of proposals were suggested for technical improvement and rationalisation of working processes. Subsequently, since last year the factory has been run under conditions almost automated or semi-automated.

Right before liberation (1944) this factory had only two technicians of Korean nationality. Now the technical rank swelled to over one thousand persons. In addition, another thousand or more are enrolled in the network of technical education such as factory college, high technical school, etc.

All the workers in the factory are members of the trade union. Among them can be seen quite

A part of the Ammonium Sulphate Shop of the Heungnam Fertilizer Combine

a number of politicians and labour innovators including Labour Hero Pak Byong Jo who is deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly.

The prospering chemical plant — Heugnam Fertilizer Combine — along with all the other chemical plants in the country is of great help for the speedy construction of the country's independent economy.

A Factory Started from Scratch

There is a small tile-roofed house just outside of the compound of the Bongung Chemical Factory. It is the first building ever used by the Bongung Chemical Goods Factory, one of the local industrial factories. The factory began its history right in this house.

It was built in 1961 by the housewives living in the vicinity.

As soon as they finished the house with the help of the nearby large factories, they installed equipment in it and started to produce. At first, they made moth-balls only. Gradually their working capacity grew and their capital increased. To cope with the changed situation, they erected more buildings. Before long they began to produce vinegar, caustic soda, soaps, etc.

To satisfy fully the demand of the local inhabitants they found it necessary to expand the assortment of goods and to improve their quality. Quite a number of installations were required for that. They did not expect any government assistance for that, because their spirit of self-reliance did not allow them to fondle such a complacent idea. It was, after all, not the idea they had when they founded the factory.

As a matter of fact, the building of the local industry should rely as much as possible on local potentialities, which is the very policy of the government on the parallel development of large-scale central industry along with local industry. Therefore, the local industry should take advantage of idle labour and facilities locally available, making use of local raw materials.

When the problem was studied, many favourable factors were discovered. The site of factory itself was an advantage, for it was located in a residential quarter surrounded by big factories. The problem was how to mobilize the masses for making use of this advantage.

The factory trade union committee explained to the workers the government policy on the small and big scale chemical industries and made them aware of its aim and significance. Then it waged a community-wide movement for the expansion of the factory with more and better installations.

The trade union leaders took the lead in this job. The workers and technicians too poured their hearts into this undertaking. They rushed to the chemical apparatus factory and other factories and enterprises to consult there responsible cadres of the management about the ideas conceived by them and about the questions arising in the course of execution. On the other hand, they worked and discussed together with the workers of the relevant factories to find out the ways and means for installing new facilities, telling them the present state of the factory as well as its perspective plan. As a result, the workers and management personnel caught the idea and came out wholeheartedly to find out all facilities and equipment they could spare and offered them accordingly. Many an equipment including a reactor was obtained in this way.

In this way, within three months workshops were newly built up for the production of lacquer, varnish, plastics and other chemicals. As a result, the productivity of the factory in the past year doubled compared with the previous year whereas the value of the output increased to 163 per cent. Thus the once negligibly small workshop housed in a small building has today grown up into a big factory and it is still progressing rapidly under the assistance of the trade union.

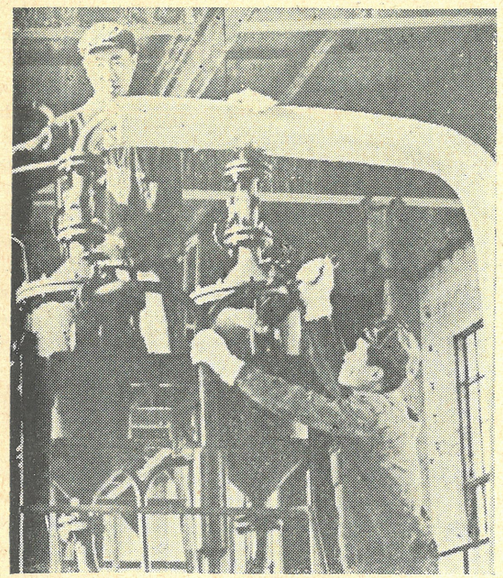
At present this factory too along with all the other factories in our country are contributing much to the national economy and to the welfare of the people, constantly perfecting its production processes, improving the quality of goods and expanding the assortment.

ALL FOR UNIFICATION

Kim Yong Gil is a name dear to the members of the repair-workteam of the Synthesis Workshop at the Bongung February 8 Vinalon Factory. His name is to be found on the attendance book of the workteam and on the chart showing the results of their repair work. His name pops up often at their workplace, even at meetings. It is the name of a dead man, but he still lives and will live forever in the hearts of the repairmen.

Kim Yong Gil was a worker of an iron works in the port city of Masan in South Korea. He was shot by the enemy in Masan during the April 1960 uprising of the patriotic people against the puppet regime of Syngman Rhee.

The repairmen registered as a member of their own workteam the patriotic worker of South Korea who had died for the victory of the revolution, and decided to do some extra work as his share. Some may doubt why they did it.



Members of the repair work-team led by Pak Hong Sik checking their machine

But this is the reflection of the burning desire of the working class in North Korea for freeing the South Korean people from the oppression by the American imperialists and their stooges and for achieving the country's unification as soon as possible.

Since they had registered Kim Yong Gil as a member of their workteam, they waged a spark-flying labour struggle with an ardent desire to bring earlier the day of unification.

Once they were set to a task of building an acetylene absorption tower in a short time. But they had to carry on complicated repair jobs for many machines simultaneously. It, therefore, was quite a burden for them.

But, they roused themselves thinking of Kim Yong Gil.

During a break Pak Du Hwan, one of the workteam members, said: "I hail from South Korea. I've my mother and younger brothers there. I cannot even sleep at night whenever I think them who are of starvating there. I'll never fail to fulfil my assignment to crush the American imperialists, the main culprit who have driven the South Korean people into such a miserable plight."

Follwing this the workers determined to complete the construction of the absorption tower ahead of schedule so as to help consolidate the industrial base of North Korea and restore South Korea's economy and save the South Korean people from dire straits after the country's unification. Subsequently, they organized themselves into a shock team and finished the project far ahead of the set time. The people in the factory praised them to have made a miracle.

"Our affection for the South Korean people as well as our wish to help them after the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialists from South Korea, our desire to unify the country has made us perform such a thing," the workteam leader Pak Hong Sik said about the real factor for their success.

This is the struggle of the members of a workteam in North Korea for the country's unification.

STRUGGLE FOR THE FORMATION OF REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS' ORGANIZATION

After their occupation of Korea in 1910, the Japanese imperialists strengthened in every way their colonial ruling system. They seized the economic artery of Korea and turned it into a supply base of food grain and raw materials, into a monopoly market for their commodities.

During their 36 years of colonial domination the Japanese imperialists plunged the Koreans into poverty and famine, kept them backward and ignorant and brought them diseases and death. Those who suffered most in those days were workers. The Korean workers, however, did not reconcile themselves to the miserable lot. They continued to fight vigorously, looking forward to the country's liberation, in the teeth of the bayonets, torture in prison and murder by the Japanese colonialists.

Below is how the Korean workers at the Heungnam Fertilizer Factory fought against exploitation and oppression by capital.

Workers' struggle for higher wages and better working conditions started from the time the construction of the factory began on June 15, 1927.

In the course of the struggle, the workers came to see that the fight against capital could be won only when they acted in unity.

The struggle of the workers of this factory assumed greater revolutionary character as a mass lay-off was effected and the working conditions grew worse following in the wake of the economic crisis that swept the capitalist world from 1929.

Their struggle of mass character proceeded stubbornly in step with the workers' strikes in different parts of the country—general strike in Wonsan in 1929 and the strike in the Hamheung district—and in step with peasants' struggle in different regions of the country.

In May 1930, thirty women workers of the packing shop, with the support of the male workers, went on strike in demand of a wage hike. On June 23 of the same year, over 100 workers engaged in the carbonic acid production called a strike, presenting to the management seven-point demand including introduction of safety device.

In June of the same year, workers of the electrolysis shop went on a 48-hour strike when a Japanese official wantonly killed a Chinese worker. Hundreds of Korean workers along with their Chinese colleagues, demanded punishment of the culprit, improved treatment and abolition of the racial discrimination. The management, for fear of its impact, accepted some of the workers' demands. This joint action marked an occasion for strengthening the class solidarity of the international proletariat at the factory.

Between 1931-1933 when crisis grew acute, strikes against dismissal, punishment in the form of suspension of attendance and wage cut and other forms of struggle were launched. Thus the factory became one of the centres of the working-class movement in Korea. Each time the management had to meet some of the workers' demands for fear of the spread of the struggle. Meanwhile, the Japanese imperialists made it to fire and jail progressive workers.

Nonetheless, the workers' class consciousness heightened rapidly. They came to see that to avoid themselves of the appalling conditions and to win class emancipation they should drive the Japanese colonialists out of Korea.

Progressive workers were acquainted with the truth of Marxism-Leninism. They were convinced of the need of the working-class unity and, for this purpose, the need of a solid, revolutionary organization.

The start of the anti-Japanese armed struggle in 1932, which marked a new phase in the national-liberation struggle in Korea, exerted a decisive influence on the effort of the workers in Heungnam to form a revolutionary organization. Inspired by the heartening news of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, progressive workers at the fertilizer factory actively worked for the formation of a revolutionary workers' organization. At length, trade union organizations began to be formed with the progressive workers as the core at work-shops and construction sites. This proceeded underground in face of the suppression by the Japanese colonialists. The police and spies got wind of the underground organizations. In consequence, many of the progressive workers were arrested. But the revolutionary spirit of the workers defending their organization were too strong to be dampened. The remaining progressive workers reconstructed their organizations, rallied comrades and expanded the organizations.

The activities for working-class unity and formation of a revolutionary organization were carried out in such legal forms as the social gathering, mutual relief group, entertainment and sports meet and through the medium of secret meeting. The trade union organizations discussed the measures for action and decided upon immediate tasks at secret meetings.

Relations between different trade union organizations gradually became closer. Various revolutionary publications were distributed secretly to play a definite role in enhancing the revolutionary con-

In June 1950 just before the outbreak of Korean war U.S. Secretary of State Dulles made an inspection tour of the 38th parallel. Photo shows the war-monger and the South Korean brass hats hatching a plot to attack North Korea.

In November 1966 U.S. President Johnson came to the 38th Parallel following in the steps taken by Dulles in June 1950. Photo shows the president and his South Korean running dogs brewing a scheme looking over the North

sciousness of the workers. Appeal and handbills issued and distributed on the eve of May Day and the anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution called for solidarity of the workers and enhanced their fighting spirit.

The underground organizations, however, suffered a heavy loss at the hands of the enemy. There were three big round-ups between 1931-1933 and in Heungnam alone over 1,000 of the progressive workers were arrested and jailed (Dong-a Ilbo, June 4, 1932).

Ruthless suppression by the Japanese police did not stop after the round-up. They ran wild to root out the workers' militant organizations and lay hands on those workers who were carrying on the struggle. They gave the watchmen at the factory the right to handle political suspects and to set up more instruments of torture at the factory. More spies were sent among the workers.

No persecution and plot of the enemy, however, could slacken the workers' hatred for the class enemy and strong fighting spirit and could induce them to give up the revolutionary activities.

The news of the heroic struggle of the anti-Japanese guerrillas led by Comrade Kim Il Sung quickly spread among the workers of the factory, infusing fresh strength into them and fortifying their fighting spirit. Encouraged by the victorious anti-Japanese guerrilla struggle, the progressive workers under the slogan of "Solidarity is the source of the strength," proceeded to restore the trade union organizations and the Red reading groups and strengthened relations between them.

The enemy's suppression was cruel. Yet, in the years after 1933, too, the workers observed every year May Day and the anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution as the occusion for demonstrating their strength and issued and distributed appeals and handbills.

After 1936 when the anti-Japanese guerrilla units, with the Changpai region as their base, began operations by crossing the border into Korea which was then under Japanese occupation. The anti-Japanese armed struggle exerted a revolutionary influence and became a source of fresh strength for the workers of the factory.

The anti-Japanese guerrillas' victorious operation in Bochonbo in the northern region of Korea that had routed the Hamheung regiment of the Japanese Army, fortified the workers' conviction of victory of the revolution.

Shortly after the Bochonbo battle, workers of the packing shop of the factory called a 24-hour strike. This strike was followed by another strike of the stevedores employed by the same factory. The Japanese colonialists were dismayed in face of the workers' strikes.

At that time, Comrade Kim Il Sung attached great importance to the struggle in the Heungnam district which was one of the places where the Korean working class was concentrated and which was the most important rear and arsenal of the Japanese imperialists. He called for stepping up the revolutionary activities of the underground political workers in that district.

Underground political workers from the anti-Japanese guerrilla units carried on the activities among the workers of the Heungnam Fertilizer Factory. They inspired the workers with the anti-Japanese revolutionary spirit and explained the programme and activities of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland organized in May 1936 at the initiative of Comrade Kim Il Sung as well as the brilliant feats accomplished by the anti-Japanese guerrillas. This encouraged activities of the organization of the progressive workers at the factory. Thus the anti-Japanese struggle of the workers and their work for the formation of a revolutionary organization vigorously proceeded under the direct, unified leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung.

In July 1937, the Japanese imperialists started war against China and intensified the fascist suppression of the Korean people. They ran wild to wipe out the workers' underground organization which was expanding at the factory. They banned even a small gathering of people and ceaselessly made round-up.

Workers' revengeful thought and class feelings found expression, under the circumstances.

The Japanese imperialists arrested and punished those who were involved in the struggle.

Nevertheless, the workers kept on their struggle in various forms until the day of the Japanese imperialists' defeat in the war. Sabotage was a general form of struggle. Countless number of struggles were waged to hamper the munitions production of the Japanese imperialists. Often workers, individually and in group, resisted the Japanese. Each time many of the workers were severely punished, dismissed and jailed.

The workers of the factory, in defiance of such difficult conditions, preserved their underground organization and resolutely fought against the enemy.

In the Name of the People of Vietnam

Fire at the head of the enemy!
Charge the bayonet on to the breast of the enemy!
In the name of the people of Vietnam
Fire at the Yankees so vicious!
Charge the bayonet!

Smash the enemy bastion!
Cut the throat of the enemy so wicked and evil!

The above song was sung by the members of the amateur art circle at the Heungnam Fertilizer Factory when the workers of the plant celebrated the 1967 New Year Festival.

Last year the factory trade union requested the amateur artists to write and compose songs on the theme of the struggle of the Vietnamese people against Yankee imperialism with the purpose of giving a better support to the fighting people of Vietnam.

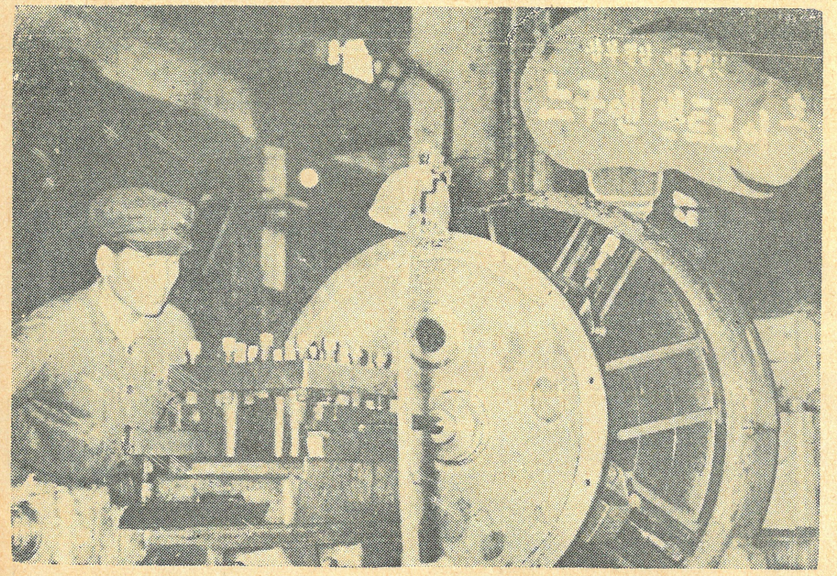
The amateur artists mustered up their talents and put on stage a rather big show consisting of music and dances under the title "The Fighting Vietnamese People Are With Us!" "In the Name of the People of Vietnam" was the theme song of the show.

HE IS WITH US FOREVER

On the second anniversary of the death of Nguyen Van Troi killed by the Yankee executioners, the primary trade union organization of the Chollima Workteam No. 1—registered as Nguyen Van Troi Workteam—in the Korea-Vietnam Friendship Workshop, Pyongyang Textile Mill, held a meeting to commemorate the death of the hero of the Vietnamese people.

The meeting was participated in by Second Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam in Korea. On this occasion the secretary conferred to local trade unionists medals of the Liberation Trade Union of South Vietnam. Besides, he presented to An Keum Shun, a Chollima workteam leader, a message sent from the workers of the Nam Dinh Textile Mill in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam along with a ring made of scrap taken off from a

(Continued on P.24)



A twice Chollima work-team led by Kim Yong Ju at the Ryongsung Machine-building Plant has registered in its member list Nguyen Van Troi, the young patriotic martyr of South Vietnam. At present the work-team overfulfils its daily assignments at 150 per cent.

WARM ASSISTANCE TO PEASANTS

The working class of Korea has been the active helper of the peasants in the ideological, technical and cultural spheres since it seized the power.

After the publication of Comrade Kim Il Sung's "Theses on the Socialist Agrarian Question in Our Country," the working class forged ahead side by side with the peasantry in high upsurge of revolutionary enthusiasm toward the fulfilment of the grand plan set forth by the Premier.

Workers of the Rakwon Machine Building Plant manufactured hundreds of water pumps in two months and sent them to irrigation projects and workers of the large size machine assembly shop of the Daean Electric Appliances Factory supplying irrigation construction sites with numbers of electric motors.

The workers built 3,000 thrashing yards for cooperative farms last year.

The assistance of the working class to the peasantry is expanding and strengthening day by day, in accordance with the 1964 decision of the Standing Committee of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions on the fulfilment of the "Theses on the Socialist Agrarian Question in Our Country."

When we visited the Ryongsong Machine Building Plant some time ago, the workers were waging a high-pitched drive for helping co-operative farms.

The plant was assisting the co-op farm, its workshops the workteams of the farm and its workteams the sub-teams of the farm.

The factory trade union committee had discussions with the managerial workers and peasants of the nearby Sudori Co-op Farm on the prospect and present situation of the farm and urgent problems. And it found out a number of matters to which it should give a helping hand so as to put farming work on a scientific basis.

The workers strive to assist the farmers on a planned and normal basis. They worked out concrete plans for different farmwork and seasons. In making farm implements, they took into account the seasonal needs and actual conditions of the farm.

The factory trade union organizations include in the increased production commitments the tasks for helping farmers.

Such steps of the trade union organizations encourage the workers to fulfil with credit their basic production quotas and the commitments for the farm, not forgetting the peasants for a moment.

They set up a farm implement repair shop in the Sudori Co-operative Farm by producing extra machines, equipment, accessories and tools.

The Chollima riders of the General Machine Assembling Shop built fodder cutters and fodder crushers for the stock-breeding team of the farm.

Turners Pak Yong Mun and Chin Eui Sop stayed occasionally in the farm implement repair shop, passing on technique to peasants. Now the machines in the shop are operated by peasants trained by workers.

In spring and autumn many workers go out to the farm from each workshop to give a helping hand to the peasants. Amateur artists of the factory often visit the co-op farm with a simple performance program to spend joyous hours with peasants. Farmers, in return, send their own amateur arists to the factory.

The Sudori Co-operative Farm is developing day by day. The work becomes easier and production rises year after year.

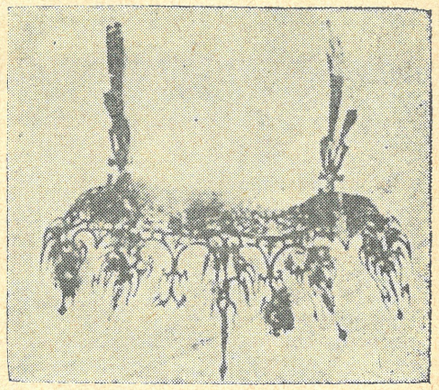
A CROWN THAT STILL SHINES

The Korean Historical Museum in Pyongyang attracts visitors' eyes to an antique crown superbly made.

It was unearthed a few years ago in Pyongyang area from under the remains of a fortress built in the Koguryo Dynasty (37 B.C.—668 A.D.). According to some scholars, the crown is made of bronze and plated with gold.

In spite of a few oxidized flaws, it still glitters in all its radiance. The band running around the crown was pressed; small holes on it were bored by way of a press-cutting method and beads studded around it are known to be welded.

Though hidden underground some 2,000 years, it is not corroded. With its original form and colour it is well preserved to date. In view of its highly finished and delicate execution, one could have a glimpse of the highly developed metallurgical technique of old Korea.

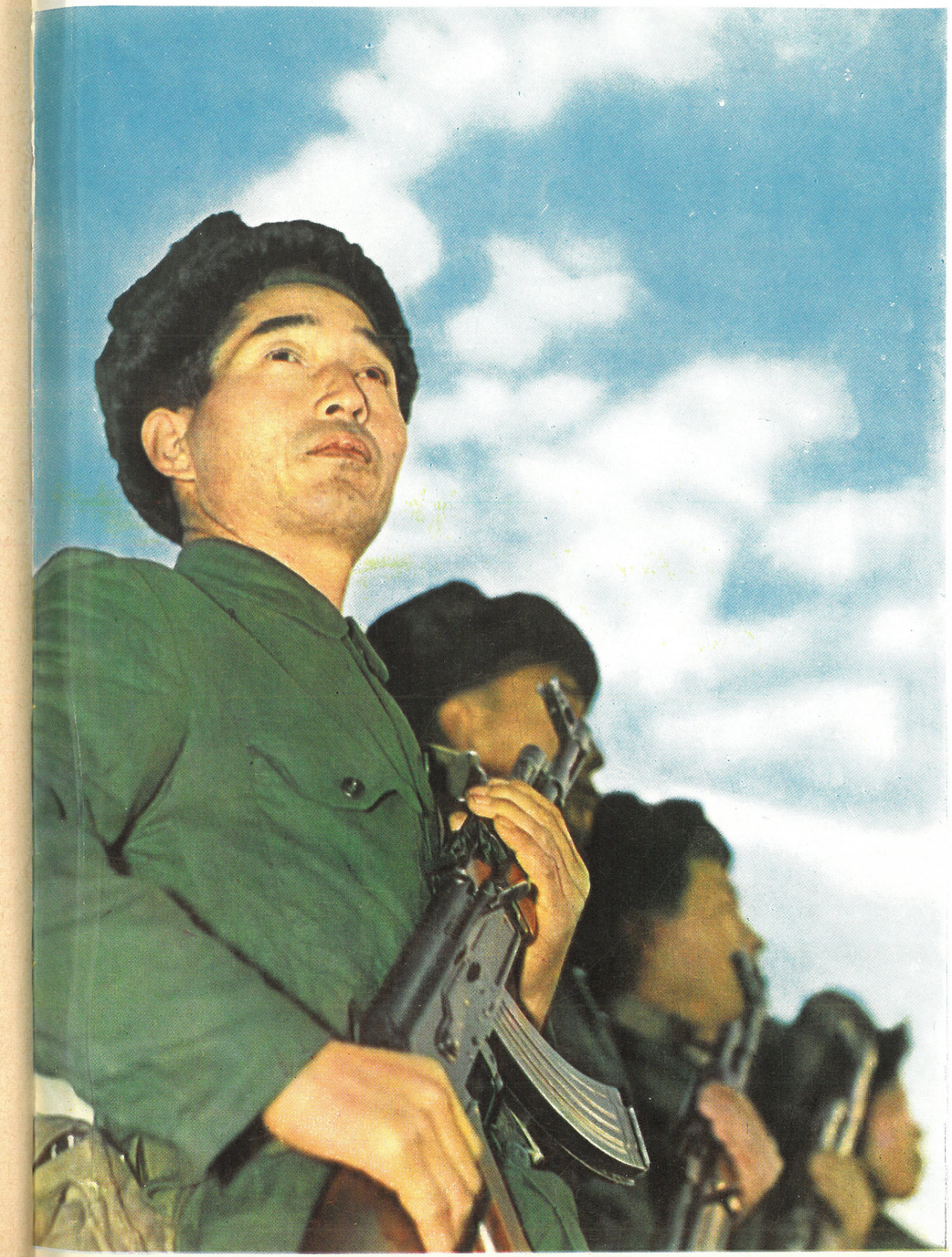


Crown made at the time of the Koguryo Dynasty

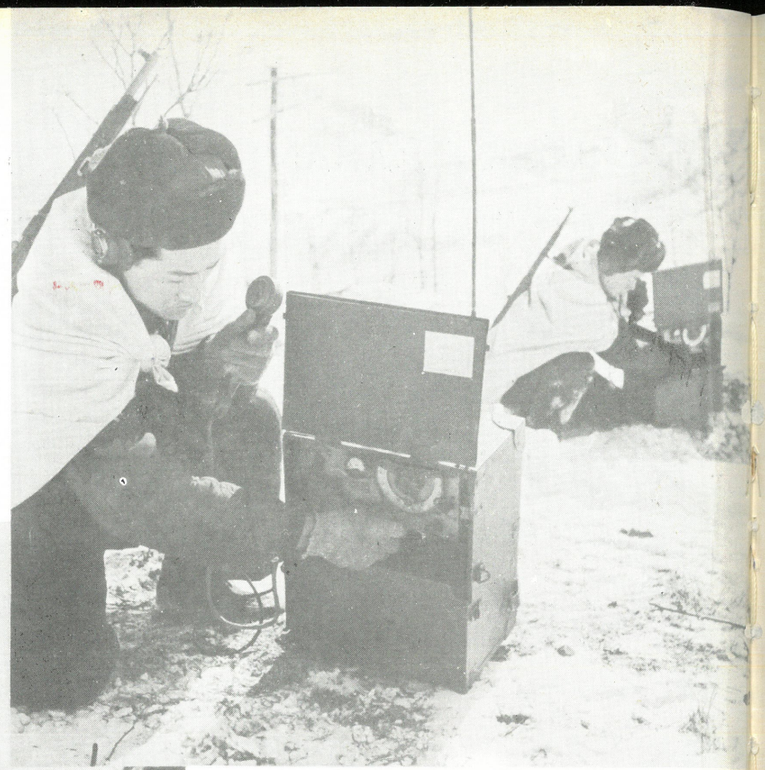
WORKER-PEASANT RED GUARD

RIFLE IN ONE HAND, HAMMER IN THE OTHER

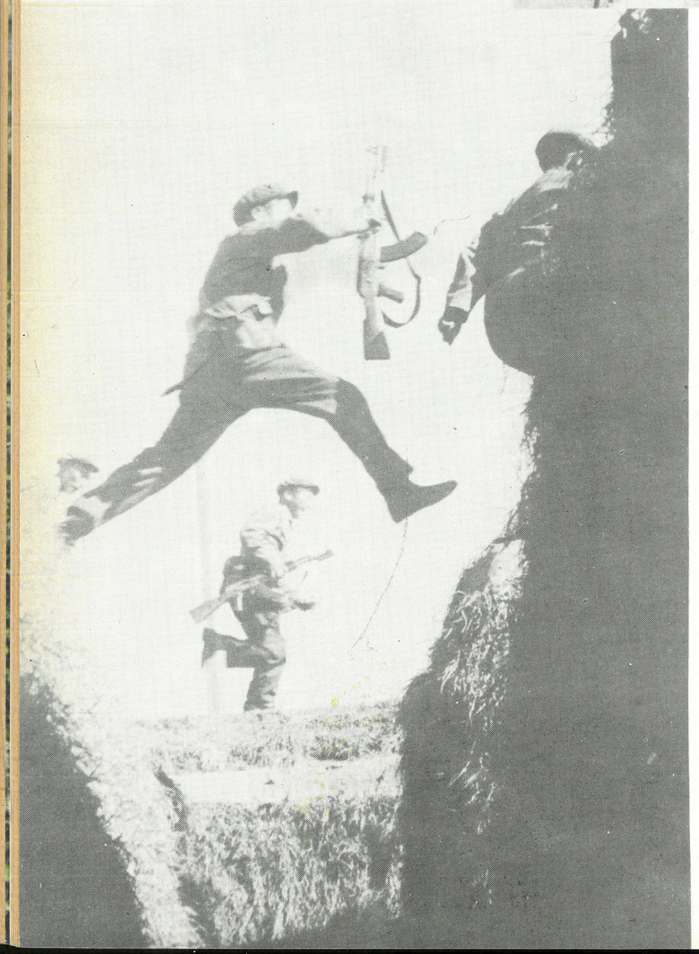
Workers in military training



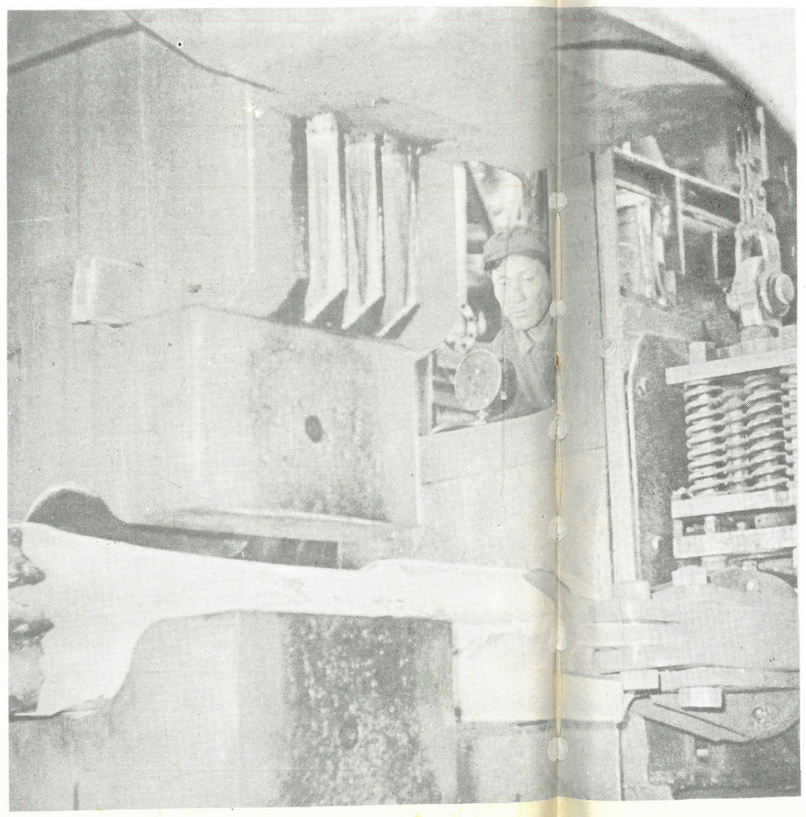
Wireless operators at work



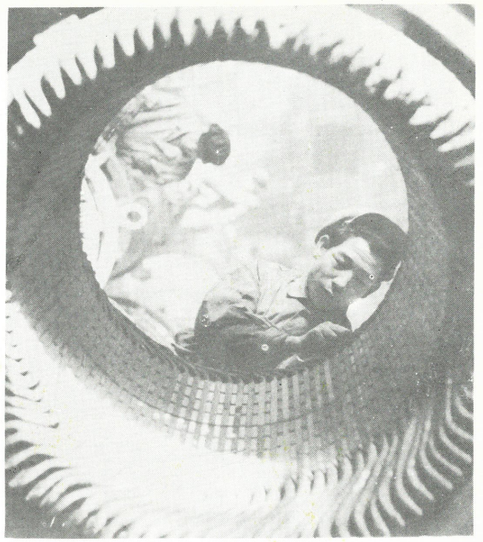
Jumping over a trench



Working at a forging shop



A work-team led by Li Myong Ok at the Youth Shop, Coal-Mining Machine Building Factory, Pyongyang, overfulfils its assignment to free South Korea as fast as possible



Red Guards are doing excellent jobs at the motor-assembly shop

A conference is held at a work-site to find out ways and means for the increase of production

On the Road to the South A korean painting by Li Yong Sik

CHEMICAL FACTORIES OF ALL SIZES GOING TOGETHER

Great demands arise for chemical raw materials and auxiliary chemicals as the national economy steadily advances and the people's living rapidly improves in our country.

To meet the demands of the developing national economy, much efforts have been devoted to creating a powerful, solid base of an independent chemical industry. The consistent line followed in the creation of a powerful base of chemical industry is to develop the medium- and small-scale chemical industries in parallel with the big-scale one. This enables us to obtain quickly various kinds of chemical raw materials and chemical agents without the state bearing much burden.

In order to produce an abundance of daily necessaries and to improve their quality, we need a variety of chemical raw materials.

Construction of medium- and small-scale chemical plants takes less time and cost less than the big ones do. And another advantage is that local raw materials can be effectively used.

Construction of many medium- and small-scale chemical plants makes it possible to train cadres in this field, to improve the workers' technical standards and skills and this provides favourable conditions for expanding the plants.

Taking into account these advantages, in developing the medium and small-scale chemical industries, we, by making the most of the facilities at the existing plants, have given procedence to the production of chemical raw materials and chemical agents which are indispensable for the manufacture of daily necessaries, while effectively introducing specialization and co-operation between different plants.

We determined the scale of plants according to the demands, and partially commissioned plants to make goods as much as possible without waiting until they were fully equipped. The plants have steadily effected technical renovation by making effective use of the technical personnel.

As a result, in different parts of the country medium- and small-scale chemical plants have made a speedy progress in a short space of time.

With the implementation of the Party's line of advancing the medium-and small-scale chemical industries in parallel with the large-scale chemical industry, in 1966 our chemical industry has grown 3.1 times that in 1944 and the level of mechanization has reached 85-90 per cent.

The output of the medium- and small-scale plants is taking greater proportion in the field of chemical industry.

Medium and Small Enterprises Shrivelling

Today medium and small enterprises occupy a very important place in the socio-economic life of South Korea. As of the end of 1964 they accounted for 93.6 per cent of the total enterprises, 69.1 per cent of the entire number of employees, and 65.5 per cent of the gross output value.

The greater part of the working class has been engaged in these enterprises which are distributed in cities large and small.

The Pak Jung Hi clique have given precedence to the up-bringing of comprador capitalists who serve as a class basis for them and a pillar for the U.S. colonial rule in South Korea. In other words, they have made every effort to strengthen their position while constantly endangering the business of medium and small enterpreneurs.

As a result, the latters have got into trouble one after another, lacking fund and raw material and failing to find market for their goods. Of various kinds of trouble suffered by them, a large part has come from difficulty in getting fund; at the beginning of 1965 it reached 47.9 per cent of all trou-

bles. The trouble caused by marketing difficulties stood at 31.5 per cent, that by heavy taxes at 11.7 per cent and that by difficulty in the procurement of raw material at 4.7 per cent respectively.

Then what is the main cause for all these? It is attributed in a way to the scanty amount of capital available for the medium and small enterprises. But, though it is true some extent, the main cause is, first of all, connected with the financial policies of the Pak Jung Hi clique who have a preference for large undertakings run by comprador capital.

It was in August 1961 with some specious terms they set out to "solve" the chronic financial difficulties troubling the medium and small enterprises. A "bank for medium and small enterprises" with a capital of 300 million won was founded to finance exclusively the medium and small enterprises. In spite of this the latters' financial position was not relieved but grew worse. In 1963 the proportion of loan stood at 62.6 per cent for large enterprises and 37.4 per cent for medium and small enterprises. And by August 1964 the proportion rose to 64.3 per cent for the formers and it fell to 35.7 per cent for the latters.

In the field of mining and manufacturing industries in 1964 64.3 per cent of loan was granted to the large enterprises which accounted for 1.5 per cent of the total enterprises, whereas the medium and small enterprises which accounted for 93.5 per cent of the total were only given 35.7 per cent of loan.

The structure of financing in other domains resembles this leaning heavily on the large enterprises.

After all, the economic policy pursued by the Pak Jung Hi clique at the order of the United States has driven the medium and small enterprises to a corner. As a whole, they are showing downward in their operation.

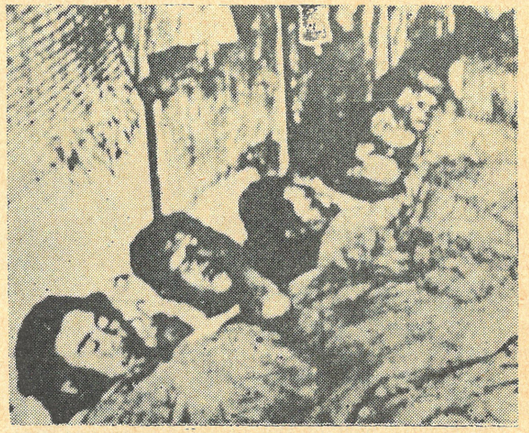
According to the South Korean press, in 1962 7.2 per cent of 88.8 per cent of the medium and small enterprises went through stagnation or serious depression. In 1964 the proportion rose to 91.0 per cent. It is a general phenomenon that the position of indigenous capital is on the steady decline as compared with that of comprador capital in colonies or dependencies. This fact, however, stands out most conspicuously in South Korea.

The medium and small enterprises which represet indigenous capital in South Korea find themselves in a pretty fix. Why? Firstly, the reason lies in the fact that they have been deprived of the foundation needed for their independent development owing to neo-colonialist policies practised by U.S. imperialism.

After the occupation of South Korea the U.S. imperialists handed over to the comprador capitalists all the basic means of production under the pretext of the sale of "vested properties," the means which would otherwise be of use for the self-supporting development of medium and small enterprises. Moreover, they have dumped under the spurious name of "aid" a huge volume of their surplus goods to the South Korean market every year. Thus, the U.S.-made goods fill up 70 to 80 per cent of the demand of the market there. They bring pressure to bear upon the domestic articles and shrink home production making it difficult for the medium and small enterprises to sell their goods.

Secondly, the medium and small enterprises are exploited and plundered by the Pak Jung Hi clique themselves. The Pak clique are giving only a lip-service to the indigenous capital with the so-called "policy to bring up medium and small enterprises." In actuality, they are interested only in fostering the comprador capital, the base of their power.

Thirdly, their hardships are being caused also by Japanese monopolies which began to extend their tentacles to South Korea following the "normalization of state relations between South Korea and Japan." For an example, the Japanese monopoly "Mitsui" has invested 5.8 million dollars in the construction of a fertilizer plant in South Korea. Besides, it penetrated through indirect investment into petroleum industry, into various branches of chemical industry and even into cosmetic factories.



Tired to death by harsh labour, workers are sleeping in a shabby hostel

TRENDS TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY

As there are increasing trends among the South Korean people to reject outside forces and demand national identity and independence and sovereignty in the political, economic and social affairs, the South Korean press speak up in the same tone more and more often.

"We Cannot Remain Indifferent to Any Outside Pressure"

Recently, South Korean magazines pointed out that "national identity is, in short, to live with one's own faith and stand," that "establishment of national identity means rejection of political interference from without and attainment of political liberty" or that "we should endeavour to establish national identity in all our political, economic, social and cultural fields and lay firm foundations for the sovereignty and independence and national prosperity of this country."

A South Korean newspaper recalled that the Korean nation, for its strong national identity, "had carried forward its political independence and national culture as a homogeneous nation over thousands of years despite all sorts of pressure from the big neighbours." Therefore, it stressed, "we must tide over the present situation with our firm national identity and independent spirit." Apparantly having in mind the national contempt and political interference by U.S. imperialism, the same paper added that "we cannot remain indifferent to any outside pressure."

The South Korean press also insist that in order to establish the nation's identity, it is necessary, first of all, to be free from foreign domination, and achieve economic independence which is a prerequisite to political independence.

One South Korean paper asserted that "without economic independence, there can be no genuine national sovereignty ... and if a family or a state is poor, it cannot but be looked down upon by others, and there can be no genuine liberation or genuine independence."

Herein lies, it emphasized, the necessity of "attaining economic independence which can secure full independence, both spiritual and material."

The press stress that for the attainment of independence and freedom, it is imperative to get rid of flunkeyism which is so deeply rooted in our rulers and certain strata of the population."

The South Korean newspapers are indignant at the Pak Jung Hi clique for their clamouring for "national identity" in an attempt to deceive the South Korean people and cover up their true colours as the lackeys of U.S. and Japanese imperialism, retorting "what on earth is national identity in the opinion of those gentlemen talking about the so-called national identity? Real national identity is hardly likely to come out of those who live sumptuously on the fat of the land, of those who hold all powers in their hands."

Economic Independence Demands Elimination of Outside Forces and Comprador Capital

The South Korean press comments expose and denounce economic dependence advocated by the puppet regime. A magazine said it was impossible to ensure economic independence without rejecting outside forces, and added:

"Twenty and more years after liberation there have been a period of continued economic confusion and stagnation which have driven the people's living into a hopeless quagmire. It is mainly because of foreign dependence and the deep-rooted servile spirit of our rulers."

The same magazine emphasized that "we must reject outside forces and construct independent economy if we are to lead a decent life based on independence and national identity."

Another magazine had this to say:

"Economic independence means for a given country to be independent of foreign aid so that it can maintain and develop its economy with its own ability. We should secure economic independence, an indispensable condition for us, by our initiative and indeavour.

Many South Korean newspapers describe how foreign "credits" and "loans" under the name of aid have obstructed South Korean economy from supporting itself.

One of them has bluntly pointed to the predatory nature of U.S. aid, saying that "the aid proceeded from the economic necessity of the United States itself and at the same time from its own national interests."

It continued: "Aid was offered by the U.S. in the light of its surplus productive forces. That is why the building of such basic industries as the machine-building industry was put off in our country, and moreover, we have been made to depend on foreign productive forces in most of equipment and nearly all raw materials for industry, while our own domestic resources have been contracted."

Still another magazine said as follows:

"The money coming from the sale of aid goods has not been allocated for production or for the relief of unemployed, but more than 80 per cent of it has been used for military expenses.

Our people, the consumer, have had to pay up for all the aid goods to raise the counterpart funds, and this means that the consumer is even forced to pay wages to foreign workers, thereby aggravating" the poverty of our nation as a whole.

The South Korean press emphasize that to build independent economy, "it is imperative to get rid of comprador capital which does not hesitate to sacrifice the economic interests of the nation and national independence for the benefit of foreign capital, receiving its aid or aligning with it."

This is what a journal has said:

"Those who had power and money were so corrupt that they unhesitatingly resorted to force, blackmail, fraud and all other shameful methods to monopolize the aid obtained at the sacrifice of this ragged nation, and enterprises existed not for production but merely as a means of getting even a bit more dollars. At a time when the national economy has to be established, the spectres of colonialism which totally ruined the country and the nation are running wild again in the guise suited to the new stage of historical development."

Independent National Unification Demands Above All To Liquidate the Spirit of Relying on Outside Forces

A number of South Korean newspapers voice more and more often for independent unification by the efforts of the nation itself free from outside forces.

A newspaper carried an article which said:

"It takes only a few hours to get to Pyongyang by express train, but we are still unable to go there although 21 years have elapsed since liberation. What prevents us? It is neither the mountains nor the rivers. There is no enemy there, and yet we find ourselves in that part of the country only in our dreams."

The author of the article said that "it is darkness rather than light that stands in our way" and expressed his hatred for U.S. imperialism and its lackeys.

The article continued:

"The question of unification is the supreme task in the history of the nation. It has not yet been solved because our own forces are not yet strong enough. We have to work for a formation of our own national forces without delay if we want to see our nation unified. The faster the nation's own forces are formed, the nearer unification will come."

The South Korean press also stress that the unification of the country can never be realized by relying on foreign forces, that it should be attained by the nation itself.

Another newspaper urged all the people to "prepare themselves steadily for national unification" and pointed out that "now that the waves of the Pacific are running high, each member of the nation should be responsible and concerned for the question of unification, the solution of which must not be left in the hands of any outsiders."

This tone is echoed in another paper which stressed as follows.

"We should not just sit with folded arms until some one tears down that cursed barrier of the 38th parallel which is so offensive to the ear and the eye, but should endeavour to solve our own question by our own efforts with a fresh determination to bring about unification for ourselves."

Another paper quoted a student as saying that "unification cannot be expected within the framework of the U.N." and that "we should see to it that" it should be actualized reasonably, and not artificially, by our own people themselves.

Still another newspaper charged that "the proposed unification by the U.N. is formal" and called for the efforts to seek a way to independent unification, saying that "the unification question has, in fact, been discussed only in form but not in content."

A POSTMAN'S DESIRE

I am a postman in a village lying near the Military Demarcation Line. Every day with newspapers, magazines and a great number of letters on my bicycle I go to Dongchang-ri, Panmun County. It is a place cut off by a barbed-wire fence marking the Demarcation Line.

People there wait for me anxiously as if all their luck of getting news depended on a postman. Whenever I enter the village people would rush out to meet me. Folks who receive messages from my hand are delighted indeed.

However, quite often I come across some people showing disappointment with a sad look. They would stare for a while with envying eyes those who greedily grab letters from my hand. Then they would turn their eyes over the South with their fists clenched. Why should they do so towards the southern land where only reeds are growing in abundance?

During the Korean war, quite a number of people in this village were forced by the U.S. troops to leave their home for South Korea. For the past 17 years the village folks who had been thus separated from their relatives have been missing them much. Of course, they know that no letter from the South can reach them, yet they cannot help but look up at my face, the postman, as if asking me whether I have brought them some news by some chance.

There is even a grandma with her eyes glimmering with tears, saying: "How I'm longing to see my eldest son! He used to write me once a month before the Americans came." On such a sad encounter I had to turn away my head as I felt my nose getting sour and wet.

Some time back, I came across with an old man called Shin Su Chang at the entrance of the village. I was on my way back after dispatching letters and publications to the village folks. He grappled my hand and dragged me into his house, hardly giving any explanation. Once in the house, he put out a letter enclosed in an envelope and said:

"I've to send this letter to my son. He was dragged by the Yanks to the South..."

The old man could not continue, gulping down bursting emotions. At the moment I grabbed unconsciously the old man's hand, hardly knowing what to say.

I was struck dumb by his speech which, all of a sudden, reminded me of the voice of my grandmother, now over eighty. She was lamenting over and again:

"Even though I die right at this moment, I won't have any grievance if I could get some news about your father."

I too had a father. But he was forced by the U.S. troops to go to the South when I was five years old. I don't remember well how father looked like. My mother did not tell anything about my father until I enrolled in a primary school, for she thought it unwise to tell such a sad story to a kid like me who was still too young to understand it. At the time I simply thought father had left home for some business.

However, my yearning for my father nagged me constantly. So, whenever I encountered a postman the old man living in the neighbourhood, to be precise, I pestered him to hand me over the letter supposed to be coming from my father. Then the postman would pull out a long sigh, looking at me without saying anything. I even had a grudge against him, not knowing why he sighed so deeply.

I was rather naive. At the time I believed that the postman would bring me any kind of letter if I wished to get one. For some time I was obssessed by the idea that when grown up, I would become a postman so that I could bring letters to all those peoples who wished to receive letters.

Later, I knew through my mother what had happened to my father. In the evening I tried hard to find out the traces of my father already faded in my memory. Many fruitless years flowed with my longing for my father.

While I was standing without a word with this thought flitting in my mind, old man Shin Su Chang stared vacantly into the distance over this barbed-wire fence where begins the southern part of our country. What a pity that people cannot get even a letter across the line! Aren't the birds flying freely without hindrance?

On many occasions our government proposed to reunify independently the country without foreign interference on a democratic basis. However, the South Korean rulers have turned a deaf ear to them. Then our government suggested the North-South Confederation, economic intercourse, reciprocal visits, exchange of messages and other reasonable proposals to create conditions for the unification. We even offered rice and other relief goods for those South Koreans who suffered from natural calamities. We showed our willingness to take care for an army of unemployed and thousands of chilaren wandering in South Korea without protection. But all these things were flatly refused by the U.S. imperialists and their stooges. Still worse, they are constantly committing provocative acts on the Demarcation Line. The matter is getting worse every day and so it has become unbearable for the Korean people.

The great event announcing the reunification of the country is approaching indeed!

When the country is reunified, the once separated family folks will meet again. Then they will be able to release all their pent-up emotions, exchanging talks about their bitter experiences caused by the division of the land.

Yes, I am convinced that the great event will come sooner or later and I reassured the old man, clasping his hand firmly.

Choi Yong Sun
Postman, Panmunjom Post Office

Activities of South Korean Workers

The South Korean workers are waging a vehement struggle for better living conditions and democratic rights.

Upwards of 44,000 workers have taken part in labour disputes, strikes and violent actions since the beginning of the second half last year.

Such sharp upsurge in the South Korean workers' movement has come against the background of the political and economic crises there and the mounting anti-U.S., anti-government sentiments among the people.

The U.S. imperialists' policies of military aggression and colonial enslavement in South Korea over the last two decades have driven the people into dire poverty previously unknown in history.

What is more, the fascist rule intensified since the "military coup" has turned South Korea into a land of terror in the sense of the term.

Wire-pulled by the U.S. imperialists, the Pak Jung Hi clique have, internally, clamped down harshly the people with the "Anti-Communist Law," "Law on Punishing Special Crimes", etc. and, externally, have converted South Korea into a dual colony of the U.S. and Japanese imperialists by concluding the "South Korea-Japan Treaty." They are driving out scores of thousands of youths to the Vietnam front as U.S. cannon-fodder.

Recently, the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique are further aggravating the people's livelihood by forcing them to hard toil for war preparations and fleecing them more harshly.

The workers, as South Korean papers pointed out, "are treated not as human beings" and are forced to work ten to eighteen hours a day for a starvation wage below one-quarter of the minimum living cost. A worker supporting a family of six members needs at least 16,455 won a month. But their wages stand as low as 4,500 won in manufacturing industry, 3,850 won in machine and accessories industry and 2,940 in some other branches of manufacturing industry.

But the workers have to toil under the worst conditions so as "not to starve to death." Banking on this helpless position of the workers, the U.S. imperialists and the puppet clique are enforcing the "Wage-Freezing Law," pegging down the wages while the prices are spiralling.

Retail prices jumped 2.3 times and those of daily necessaries over 2 times due to the "liberalization" and "realistic steps" enforced by Pak Jung Hi during his office over the last 5 years. But the wages of workers have slid down 10.5 in the same period.

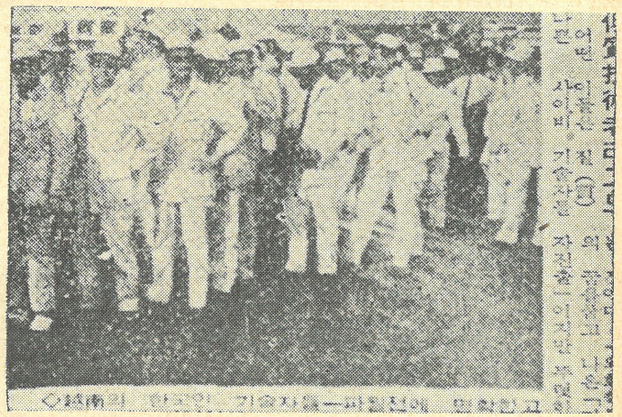
The puppet clique keep the workers' wages at a low scale, whereas they, though slightly, "raise" at times the salaries of "public servants" and puppet servicemen. Still worse, the taxes rose 2.2 times during the above period.

The existence of the 7 million strong army of unemployed and semi-employed aggravates the social and economic situation of the workers and constantly threatens the life of the employed workers.

Capitalizing on this, the enterprises arbitrarily extend the workday, push up work-speed and keep even the low wages in arrears for months.

As of September 28 last year, wages of 23,000 workers of 36 "government-run" enterprises including the "Daehan Transport," to the tune of 110 million won had been kept in arrears. Some enterprises carry over the backwages of workers to another year. The "Daedong Business" and "Daehan Transport" have not paid their workers for 17 and 16 months. Yet they persecute workers who demand the payment of backwages. Some time ago, the boss of the "Samyang Enterprise" patrionized by the Pak Jung Hi clique beat and seriously wounded a worker who demanded his wage in arrears be paid.

But this is not the whole story of the suffering workers. More often than not, the wages are paid in chits, which the workers, pressed hard for money, sell to merchants and usurers at prices lower than their denomination.



South Korean workers, who were taken by the American imperialists to Kamran, South Vietnam, are calling a strike against the inhuman treatment and humiliation by the Yankees

Labour disasters take a heavy toll of workers' lives owing to the lack of safety devices. When a worker gets wounded or sick, he is simply expelled from the factory, let alone medical care.

But the South Korean rulers take sides of the enterprises and repress the workers struggling for vital rights. To crush the trade union activities and strikes, they have revived time and again the "Trade Union Law," "Law on Settlement of Labour Disputes" and the "Standard Law on labour," and reshuffled the "government" sponsored "trade union" organizations into bureaucratic organs.

They set a rule requiring the workers to go through five stages — "notice, fact-finding, good office, arbitration and conciliation" and a cooling-off period preceding a labour dispute. This means that the workers can walk out only 70 to 80 days after they send notice to the employers.

Thus the South Korean workers are denied the three elementary rights—the rights of union, strike and collective bargaining. Besides, they are subjected to unheard-of persecution and maltreatment. Little wonder, the discontent of the workers has become so explosive.

They are fighting for higher wages and better living conditions, opposing the reactionary labour policy, particularly the low wage policy. Recently, their struggle has surged to a new high, showing a series of characteristics.

To begin with, it assumes a more active form and becomes more persistent. The proportion of strikes is rising markedly. It went up from 22.9 per cent in 1964 to 36 per cent in 1965.

Over 330 workers of the Hwasoon Coal Mine in South Cholla Province downed tools on October 13 last year and resumed their strike six days after, demonstrating their stubborness, and workers in Ryongsan district, Seoul, waged a violent struggle against outrages of the employers and the puppet government district office.

They ignore the puppet government laws such as the "Law on Settlement of Labour Disputes." Sympathy strikes are waged more frequently by workers organized on regional and industrial lines. The workers are intensifying their struggle independent of the venal upper-crust of "trade unions."

Many workers push through their demands, elementary as they are.

In September last year, Korean workers hired at U.S. army organs succeeded to push through part of their demand. On October 11, some 40,000 South Korean workers hired at U.S. army organs sent a letter demanding higher wages and better living conditions to the U.S. commander. They threatened a strike, demonstrating their staunch fighting spirit.

Keenly realizing that struggle is the only way of salvation, the workers are waging ceaseless struggle all over South Korea to get rid of their miserable lot.

With no fascist suppression can the U.S. imperialists and their stooges put down the surging struggle more vehement and stubborn, not yielding to the harsh enemy suppression.

February 7th—A Stormy Day

In February 1948, there was a big struggle in South Korea. It swept every nook and corner of the land directing its spearhead against U.S. imperialism. It was a great event, indeed, which later went down in golden letters in our history as the February 7th anti-U.S., national salvation struggle.

On the eve of every February our people used to recall this day with tender memory.

As Japanese imperialism surrendered in World War II, the American imperialists with a long-cherished dream to swallow up Korea, occupied in September 1945 the southern half of our motherland. Availing themselves of this occasion they began to run wild in an attempt to perpetuate the division of Korea and to turn completely Korea into their colony and military base. However, from the very beginning their schemes met with a strong opposition of our workers. At that time workers and people in North Korea had already taken political power and means of production into their hands. And they were attaining great successes in all spheres of politics, economy and culture. It was in this period that North Korea put forth a line for unifying the motherland independently without any outside interference and took on its own initiative a measure to realize it.

On the other hand the U.S. plot to convert South Korea into a colony and military base was also denounced by the broad sections of the people the world over.

Under such circumstances the United States thought fit to abuse the U.N. flag to deceive the world public opinion. In mid-October 1947 it brought illegally the Korean question to the U.N. and rigged up the so-called "U.N. Commission on Korea" setting in motion its hand-raising machine. With this, it intended to concoct a separate government in South Korea through the medium of an "election" farce.

The "U.N. Commission on Korea" crept itself into South Korea on January 1, 1948, when the people were opposed to the "commission" demanding it to withdraw from South Korea at once.

It is how the Korean people were again confronted with the problem: whether they would allow themselves to be a ruined nation or rise up to win the national independence for which they yearned so eagerly.

The Workers' Party of Korea set forth a correct line for coping with the danger of national split and called upon the entire Korean people to come out in the struggle to save the country against U.S. imperialism. Upholding this line and appeal, all the

Korean people roused themselves to action.

In South Korea a struggle broke out first among the workers in the industrial areas between Seoul and Inchon. Then workers in other parts, too, joined the struggle.

The slogans they put up in their struggle were: "No U.N. Commission on Korea!" "U.S. Army, Go Home!" "Leave the Establishment of a United, Democratic Government to the Korean People!" and so on and so forth.

At the dawn of February 7, 1948 all workers who were engaged in the fields of communications, electric industry and raiways in South Korea went on strike scattering leaflets.

The strike of communication workers paralized telegraphic and postal services throughout the whole South Korea. Following this, workers in other branches of industry called strikes.

In response to the heroic struggle of the working class many peasants also took part in the national salvation struggle and then youth and students joined in the struggle and went on strike or staged demonstrations.

Alarmed by this, the U.S. imperialists and their South Korean puppets pulled out even tanks. They savagely repressed and massacred workers and other people who participated in this struggle.

Despite this, the insurgent masses did not succumb. They got so furious that they raided and destroyed 26 puppet police stations posts in the days between February 7 and 9 alone.

The struggle lasted for over 3 months involving a large number of workers, peasants, youth and students, intellectuals, businessmen and other sections of people, 2 million in all.

The February 7th struggle dealt a severe blow at the vicious scheme of the United States to divide Korea into two and split the Korean nation for good. At the same time it revealed without reserve the patriotic, fighting spirit of the Korean people.

With its dirty acts against Korea, American imperialism defamed seriously the "prestige" of the U.N. of which it had much vaunted as an "authoritative, international organization."

Through the hard-fought struggle workers and people in South Korea became able to know clearly who was their national enemy and who was their class enemy. After all, they were awakened to greater extent, in many respects.

Patriotism and militant spirit displayed 19 years ago, are still living to date in the hearts of the people in South Korea. This is illustrated well by the fact that a trend in favour of the independent unification of the motherland becomes more and more pronounced among the South Korean people who consider U.S. imperialism as their sworn enemy and want to drive it out of our land as early as possible.

Notwithstanding this, the United States which has been indulging in aggression now refuses to withdraw from South Korea, it rather kicks up a dust to unleash another war there.

In October last year Johnson made a tour to South Korea. During his stay there he said rashly that "the war is likely to expand to any parts of Asia." In this way he tried to inspire his South Korean hirelings to a new war. The nasty behaviour of the U.S. president reminds us of the play performed by Dulles in 1950 in the trench built along the 38th Parallel. It is quite certain for us that Johnson's play will soon draw the curtain of defeat in the Far East as Dulles' did in the past.

However a frantic measure U.S. imperialism may take, it will never succeed in weakening the militant spirit of our workers and people.

When comes a decisive moment, the workers and people of South Korea will rise up again to pass a stern judgement on U.S. occupationers and will surely achieve what hoped for by the fighters at the time of the February 7th national salvation struggle.

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U.S. plane shot down by the Vietnamese fighters.

The unionists attending the meeting pledged a greater support to the anti-U.S. national salvation struggle of the Vietnamese people with a firm resolve to carry out their economic tasks. Mindful of the fact that U.S. imperialism is the common enemy of the peoples of Korea and Vietnam, they were filled with sentiments of vengeance for Nguen Van Troi who had died the death of a hero.

A great number of Chollima riders attended similar meetings held at various factories and enterprises in Pyongyang.

Labour Policy of American Imperialists and Pak Jung Hi Clique

"REGULATIONS ON FOREIGN WORKERS EMPLOYED AT AMERICAN UNITS AND COMPANIES IN THE FAR EAST"

The American imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique resort to a whole pack of laws and regulations to suppress and exploit the workers in South Korea.

"Regulations on foreign workers employed at the American Units and Companies in the Far East" is one of the laws and regulations the U.S. imperialists apply to the workers in South Korea.

The "regulations" was concocted by the United States following the conclusion of World War II to intensify the oppression and exploitation of the working people with the object of maintaining the countries in the Far East as its colony or dependency.

The American imperialists apply it to the workers in South Korea more cruelly than to those in other countries. They allege that the "regulations" provides for the procedures of the American units and organizations employing foreign workers. But in fact, the "regulations" is for putting down the revolutionary struggle of the working class in pursuance of their colonial policy.

To cite a few provisions of the regulations.

The "regulations" says: American units and organizations shall employ those foreign workers who make a written oath not to join trade unions. The U.S. imperialists have tried time and again since the ceasefire in Korea in July 1953 to dissolve trade unions of the Korean workers hired at their units on the strength of the provision.

The "regulations" stipulates that Koreans shall undergo the inquiry into their identity and the physical examination in accordance with the main points on the recruitment of employees worked out by the U.S. 8th Army Headquarters in South Korea when they want to be employed by U.S. army units or American organizations. The American army organizations remove progressive workers from the ranks of the working class under the pretext of "inquiry into their identity" whenever they recruit their employees.

The U.S. 8th Army authorities even paint the label "Passed" on the arms of those Koreans who have passed the physical examination. This is an intolerable insult to South Korean workers.

This is why a South Korean publication deplored that "the employees of U.S. army units are treated not like human beings but like goods."

The American units and companies force Korean workers to compensate for the label-like "pass" when it is either damaged or lost.

The American MacPharden Company forced a Korean employee named Soh Ryong Jin to compensate 500 won for a scratch on his "pass." The latter paid 500 won for the scratch and had his "pass" repaired and returned to the American company management.

But the American management, instead of returning the money, dismissed the Korean worker on the charge of his "disobedience," according to South Korean dailies "Dong-a Ilbo" and "Hanguk Ilbo."

The "regulations" provides for "the right to discharge employees if necessary."

This provision is aimed at dismissing those Korean employees who fight for the rights to live and those who know too much of the nature of U.S. policy of war.

In 1965 the American army authorities discharged 600 Korean employees who demanded a higher pay and the payment of bonus and allowances.

The "regulations" has specified the wages of the Korean workers. Namely, the "regulations" says that the Korean workers shall be paid in accordance with the specified rates defined by the U.S. 8th army command.

Under the regulations South Korean workers' wages are less than a half of what the Japanese workers are paid and Japanese workers are entitled to 25 kinds of allowance and South Korean workers to five kinds only.

The regulations even stipulates that the official language spoken at the U.S. army units shall be English.

The identity card of a Korean employee of the American Stevenson Firm called Yun Byong Gap was confiscated and then he was put under custody because he phoned in Korean in violation of the regulations, said the South Korean paper "Kukje Shinbo."

Nevertheless, the Pak Jung Hi clique actively help the American imperialists execute the cruel regulations in South Korea.

The puppet authorities called out more than 200 mobile policemen to suppress the workers of the Wulsan Oil Refinery who had risen up in a struggle against the illegal discharge of their workmates by the U.S. army unit, according to the South Korean daily "Kangwon Ilbo."

Despite the attempts of the American imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique to intensify the oppression and exploitation of the South Korean workers by applying the "regulations," the workers of South Korea continue their resolute struggle in demand of the repeal of the "regulations."

State railway workers in Kokura, Japan, are gathered in a meeting to protest against U.S. aggression on Vietnam

Japanese Workers U. S. Aggression

The U.S. journal "Foreign Affairs" wrote that the United States would not have been able to start the Vietnam operation in such a scale as today, had it not been for Japan.

Japan, in fact, serves the U.S. imperialists as their biggest operational and logistic basis in their war of aggression in Vietnam. U.S. planes and warships attacking Vietnam have their bases in Okinawa and Japan proper. Japan supplies 90 % of the napalm bombs dropped by U.S. planes on Vietnam. She also supplies weapons, ammunitions, military vehicles, communication apparatuses, military boots, medicines, canned food, etc. Aircraft and other U.S. weapons damaged in the Vietnam war are repaired in Japan.

She even makes coffins for the American wardead and is offered as a recreation site for GIs.

It is nobody's secret that the Sato government renders zealous assistance to the U.S. imperialists in all spheres, political economic and military.

The escalation of the Vietnam war by the U.S. imperialists and the active participation of the Japanese militarists in it not only jeopardize peace in Asia but menace peace and security of Japan herself. This also threatens the life and rights of the Japanese working people through speed-up, mass layoffs, spiralling market prices and suppression of trade union activities.

Therefore, it is fully justifiable and of great importance that the Japanese people are opposing the U.S. imperialists' aggression on Vietnam to defend their own life and rights and safeguard peace in Asia.

If the U.S. imperialists are rendered unable to use Japan in their Vietnam aggression, it will be a serious blow to them. Conscious of the urgency of the situation and their international duty, the Japanese working class and democratic forces have risen up determinedly in a practical struggle for stopping the aggression on Vietnam. Workers sabotage production of military supplies and courageous seamen boycott transport to Vietnam. Peasants and citizens fight fiercely against U.S. bases in Japan. Women are waging social movements against U.S. imperialist aggression and for relief of Vietnamese women and children. Scientists expose U.S. barbarities in Vietnam and demand the stop of aggression. This struggle is joined by students, men of culture and medium and petty merchants.

The joint action of the Japanese working class and democratic forces has surged to a new high since the U.S. bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong last summer. Many times did the democratic forces observe month of joint action against the U.S. aggression. Now in Japan a campaign for collecting 40 million signatures against the U.S. war in Vietnam is successfully going on and the movement for raising 10 million yen for the Vietnamese people has surpassed the target. Besides, rallies, demonstrations and street propaganda against the U.S. aggression on Vietnam are held throughout Japan.

The united might of the working class was well demonstrated in the nation-wide general strike on October 21 last year. That day the working class and democratic forces of Japan called a powerful strike in support of the Vietnamese people in their national salvation struggle against the U.S. imperialists' aggression. The united action was participated in by 5,470,000 workers embraced in 91 trade unions and 2,120,000 of them downed tools. They renewed their determination to intensify the nation-wide united action to oppose the aggression of the U.S. imperialists against Vietnam, overthrow the Sato government which is actively partaking in their aggression and to defend their vital rights.

It was a large scale anti-war strike in the history of labour movement in Japan.

The October 21 strike was a serious blow to the U.S. imperialists who were escalating the aggressive war and to the Sato group who were actively following them and hastening the revival of militarism and was an inspiration to the Vietnamese people in their righteous, patriotic struggle.

Such scale of joint action of the Japanese democratic forces was the greatest success since the struggle against the "U.S.-Japan security pact."

In this course, the corruption of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party was exposed and the struggle for overthrowing the Sato cabinet was combined with the struggle against the U.S. aggression on Vietnam.

In the Diet, the Communist, Socialist and other opposition parties are joining forces to overthrow the Sato cabinet, which is shaking to the very foundation.

The U.S.-Japanese reactionaries, frightened by the powerful advance of the people, are clamping down harshly upon them. But, there is resistance of the people where there is oppression.

The Kishi cabinet which suppressed people fighting against the "U.S.-Japan security pact" in 1960, was toppled by none other than these people. The then U.S. president Eisenhower who wanted to visit Japan to encourage Kishi had to give up the plan in face of the powerful opposition shown by the Japanese working class.

Fight Against on Vietnam

The proud tradition of the anti-"security pact" struggle in 1960, which led to the overthrow of the Kishi cabinet and thwarted Eisenhower's visit is today being carried forward by the Japanese working class. Therefore, Prime Minister Sato is following the footsteps of Kishi.

The struggle of the Japanese working class and democratic forces against the U.S. aggression on Vietnam is developing into a nation-wide struggle, which is linked with the struggle for overthrowing the corrupt Sato cabinet. The working class is now preparing a vehement struggle against mass discharge and for higher wages.

The Japanese Communist Party is advancing in the van of the democratic forces, while striving to develop the struggle against the U.S. aggression on Vietnam and for vital rights into a nation-wide joint struggle.

The October 21 strike marked an important milestone in the development of the joint action of the Japanese people.

On October 21, 1966, people engaged in the press, broadcasting and other propaganda media of Japan staged a demonstration. Their placards bear the words: "We are opposed to the aggressive war in Vietnam!" "Down with the Sato government!"

For strengthening INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

ENGLAND

In November last year, a demonstration and mass rally were held by the Trade Union Committee of the "Movement for Freedom of Colony", scathing the aggressive war of the United States in Vietnam.

The demonstrators gathered in a city square. The speakers at the mass rally exposed the aggressive war in Vietnam being the result of the imperialistic policy of the United States. They demanded to withdraw the U.S. troops from South Vietnam and to recognize the right of the Vietnamese people to settle their destiny by themselves.

The participants of the rally adopted a resolution in which they demanded the U.S. troops to get out of South Vietnam, to stop the bombing over Vietnam and to acknowledge the S.V.N.F.L. as plenipotentiary representatives.

ARGENTINA

In November last year the workers of railway station and sea transport numbering 220,000 respectively walked out on a 24-hour strike. They supported the struggle of the dockers and fought against the interference of the Argentine troops in the trade union activities of the dockers. The dockers waged their struggle against wage-cut and demanded the improvement of the working conditions.

At the same time the workers of automobile and aviation industries came out again to express their solidarity with the dockers.

The movement for unity and concerted action of the Argentine trade unions turned to support the dockers in their struggle and

Ottawa citizens staging a demonstration to denounce the United States for its aggression on Vietnam

The struggle against U.S. imperialism, common enemy of the world people, and against monoploy capital is gaining momentum in various countries of Western Europe. Photo shows Belgians demonstrating against the U.S. aggression on Vietnam

Demonstrators in West Berlin demand Yankees to get out of Vietnam

asked the authorities to accept their demands.

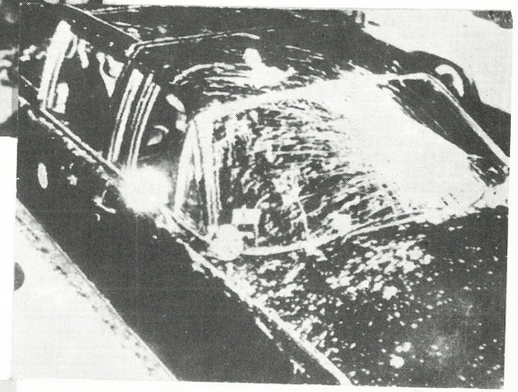
MEXICO

In September last year, thousands of cotton cultivators carried out demonstration against the vicious American enterpreneurs in many provinces of Mexico.

The demonstrators made a strong protest to the American companies against reducing the prices of cotton seeds. They brought down the price of cotton seed from 870 to 600 pesos per ton. In this way they squeezed 55,000,000 pesos more from the 7,000-odd cotton-cultivators.

JOHNSON'S TOUR

Johnson's car was doused with paint by Melbourne citizens



In Sydney students and workers attacked Johnson's car with rotten eggs and tomatoes

The police are in a scuffle with the demonstrators

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The Korean TRADE UNIONS